

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /061 W

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R 011300Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8202

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13767

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR , GW ELAB

SUBJ: SOVIET VIEWS ON FRG ELECTION, SHELEPIN REPLACEMENT

1. AT QP MEETING AUG 31, FRG AMBASSADOR SAHM REPORTED ON RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW OF FRG METALWORKERS' UNION DELEGATION HEADED BY LODERER, WHO IS ALSO CHIRMAN OF WESTERN-ORIENTED INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS' UNION AND A SOCIAL DEMOCRAT.

2. LODERER TOLD FRG EMBASSY THAT ALL SOVIETS WITH WHOM HE WAS IN CONTACT SAID THEY WANTED THE COALITION TO WIN THE ELECTION, AND HOPED, IT WOULD.

3. LODERER ALSO SAID HE HAD GIVEN A FLAT TURNDOWN TO EXPRESSIONS OF SOVIET INTEREST IN CONTACTS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL UNION, ON GROUND THAT NONE OF HIS PEOPLE WANTED THEM.

4. AT LUNCHEON HE GAVE FOR DELEGATIONS, SAHM ASKED (UNAMED) SOVIET TRADE UNION GUEST WHO SHELEPIN'S SUCCESSOR (AS CHAIRMAN OF PRESIDUM OF ALL-UNION CENTRAL COUNCIL
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OF TRADE UNION, AUCCTU) WOULD BE. REPLY HAD BEEN THAT

THERE WOULD BE AN ACUCCTU PLENARY IN OCTOBER, THAT NO ONE WOULD BE ELECTED TO REPLACE SHELEPIN BEFORE THEN, BUT THAT ELECTION WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE LATEST IN THE SPRING OF 1977, WHEN THERE WOULD BE AUCCTU CONGRESS.

5. COMMENT: THIS CAREFUL ANSWER ON SHELEPIN IS CONSISTENT WITH TWO VARIETIES OF SPECULATION ON TIMEING IN LEADERSHIP KCHANGES WE HAVE HEARD: THIS AUTUMN (AT CC PLENUM IN CONNECTION WITH SUPREME SOVIET) OR NEXT SPRING.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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